

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph that begins on Page 25, line 18 and carries over to Page 26, line 16 with the following marked-up replacement paragraph:

-- Commonly-assigned U. S. Patent \_\_\_\_\_ (serial number 09/670,844, filed 09/27/2000), which is titled "Calendar Events and Calendar-Driven Application Technique", discloses techniques whereby information about an electronic calendar user can be made automatically available to others. This information includes whether the calendar user checks his e-mail, and how often he checks it, for various types of status events pertaining to the calendar. For example, if the calendar user's current status (as determined from his calendar) shows that he is away from the office, the information provided according to this invention may indicate whether he checks e-mail while he is away from the office. Commonly-assigned U. S. Patent \_\_\_\_\_ (serial Patent 6,640,230 (serial number 09/671,001, filed 09/27/2000), which is titled "Calendar-Driven Application Technique for Preparing Responses to Incoming Events" is related, and discloses techniques whereby status information can be determined from the user's calendar in advance of receiving incoming events (such as incoming e-mail, voice calls, instant messages, etc.), and used to prepare customized responses which supply information pertaining to the user. The information from this analysis is stored, and can then be used to quickly generate a response when a message does arrive. While these inventions enable a message sender to obtain some information, this information is directed toward whether the user is likely to be using e-mail; the sender still has no more control over the recipient's handling of incoming e-mail messages than in other prior art e-mail systems which have already been discussed. These inventions therefore do not teach the inventive concepts disclosed herein. —